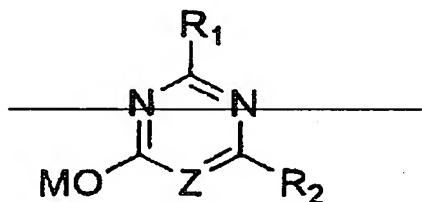


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

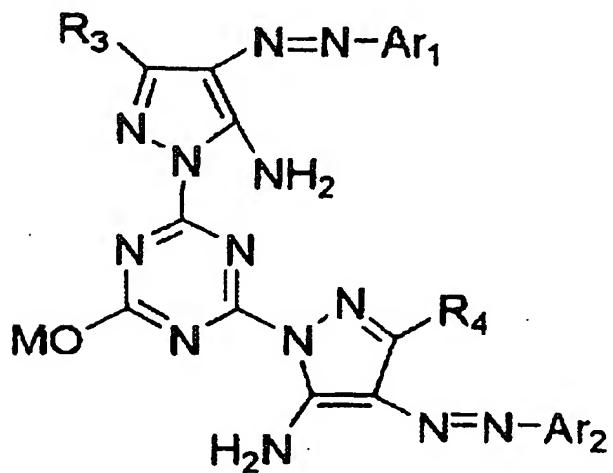
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A dye represented by formula $[(1)]$ (2), (3) or (4):

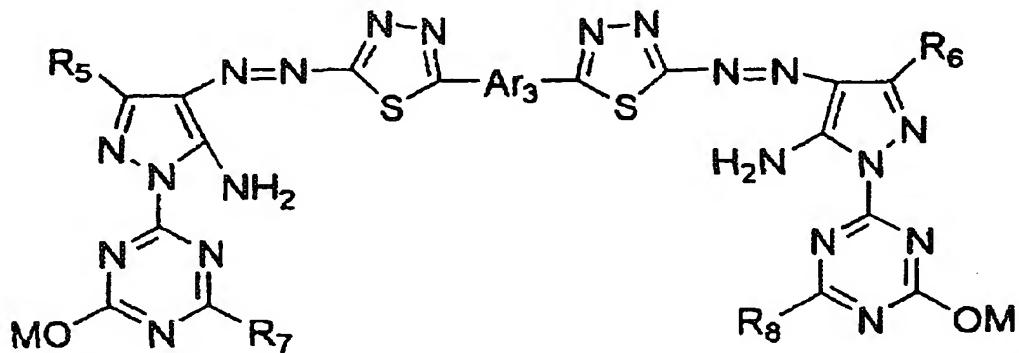


wherein R_1 and R_2 each independently represents a monovalent group, Z represents a nitrogen atom or a carbon atom to which a hydrogen atom or a monovalent group is bonded, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation, provided that the dye has two azo groups

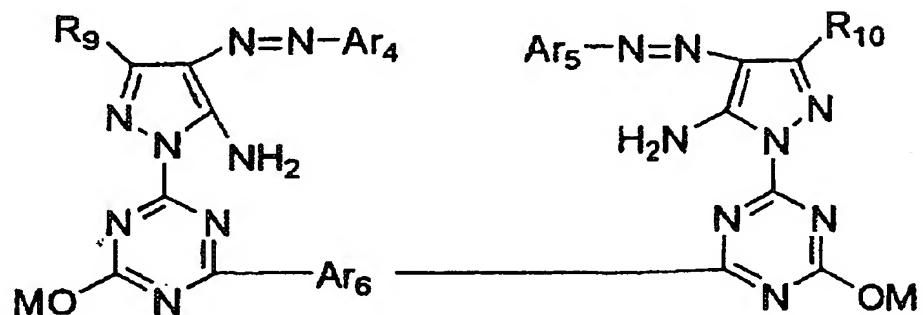


formula (2)

wherein R₃ and R₄ each independently represents a monovalent group, Ar₁ and Ar₂ each independently represents an aryl group or a hetero ring group, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation;

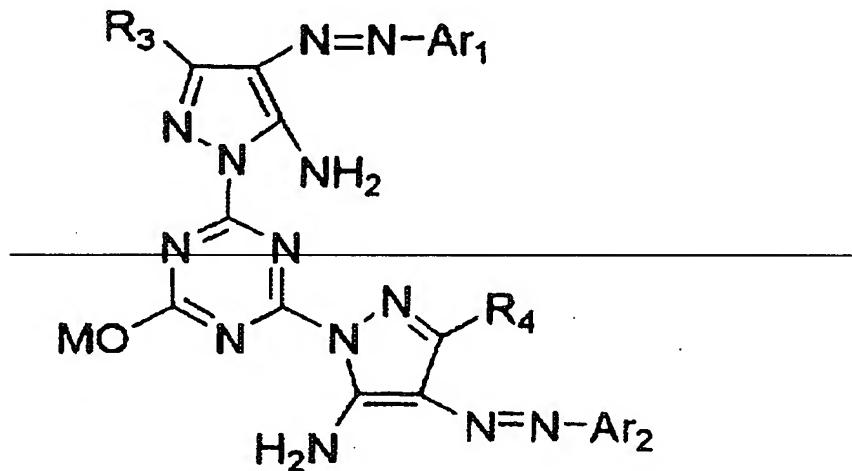
formula (3)

wherein R₅, R₆, R₇ and R₈ each independently represents a monovalent group, Ar₃ represents a divalent linking group, M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation;

formula (4)

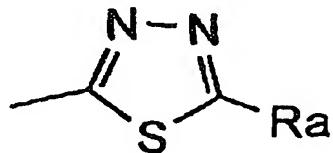
wherein R₉ and R₁₀ each independently represents a monovalent group, Ar₄ and Ar₅ each independently represents an aryl group or a hetero ring group, Ar₆ represents a divalent linking group, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The dye according to claim 1, wherein the dye represented by formula (1) is a dye represented by formula (2):



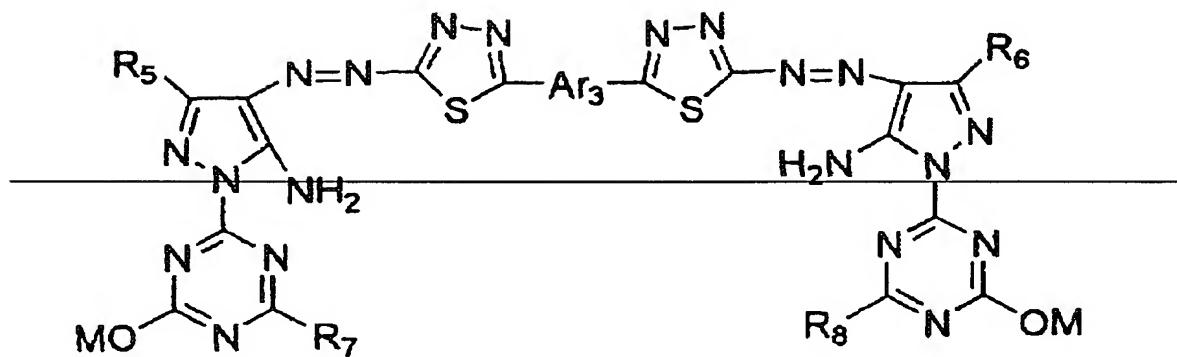
wherein R_3 and R_4 each independently represents a monovalent group, Ar_1 and Ar_2 each independently represents an aryl group or a hetero ring group, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation.

Claim 3 (Original): The dye according to claim 2, wherein Ar_1 and Ar_2 each independently represents a group represented by formula (A):



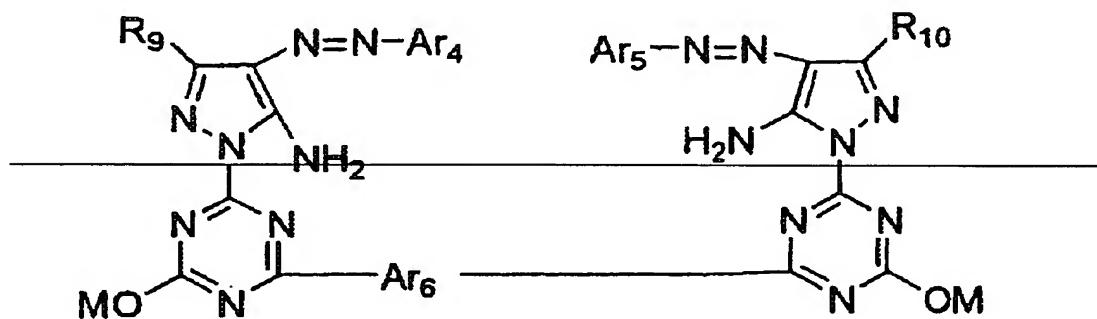
wherein Ra represents a monovalent group.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The dye according to claim 1, wherein the dye represented by formula (1) is a dye represented by formula (3):



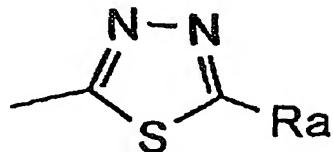
wherein R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 each independently represents a monovalent group, Ar_3 represents a divalent linking group, M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The dye according to claim 1, wherein the dye represented by formula (1) is a dye represented by formula (4):



wherein R_9 and R_{10} each independently represents a monovalent group, Ar_4 and Ar_6 each independently represents an aryl group or a hetero ring group, Ar_6 represents a divalent linking group, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation.

Claim 6 (Original): The dye according to claim 5, wherein Ar₃ and Ar₄ each independently represents a group represented by formula (A):



wherein Ra represents a monovalent group.

Claim 7 (Original): An ink comprising a dye according to any one of claims 1 to 6.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An inkjet recording method comprising forming an image by using utilizing an ink according to claim 7.

Claim 9 (Original): An ink sheet comprising a dye according to any one of claims 1 to 6.

Claim 10 (Original): A color toner comprising a dye according to any one of claims 1 to 6.

Claim 11 (Original): A color filter comprising a dye according to any one of claims 1 to 6.